

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 2-5, 7-8, 10, 12-15, 17-18, 20, 22-25, 27-28, 30 are allowed.

Independent claim 8, 18 and 28 are towards a filtering method and recites "...dividing the digital image into a plurality of frames, each frame including a plurality of blocks, wherein each block of the plurality of blocks may be represented as a plurality of elements within a plurality of columns (m) and rows (n), where m and n are each two or more; filtering each element of each column of each block, wherein for a given mth column, weighting column m-1 25%, weighting column m 50%, and weighting column m+1 25%; filtering each element of each row of the block, where given an nth row, filtering further comprises weighting row n-1 25%, weighting row n 50%, and weighting row n+1 25%; and decimating a subset of the plurality of blocks within a certain frame of the plurality of frames based upon predetermined criteria...." which is a feature that is not anticipated nor obvious over the art of record. Dependent claims 2-5, 7, 10-, 12-15, 17, 20-, 22-25, 27, and 30 are allowed for the reasons concerning the independent claims.

***Conclusion***

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (571)-272-7337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571)-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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